
Title: Military Justice

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Because of the social mores that guide the daily life of samurai, military justice is a very tricky subject. Responsibility and honor tend to cloud rational judgement. It is generally left to the judgement of the next rank up in the chain of command to render a decision on matters of military justice. In the eyes of a good commander, every soldier is important. Executions over small matters of duty lower morale, and raise questions of loyalty among the ranks, not to mention quickly depleting ranks of your most valuable asset... the fighting man. With this in mind corporal punishment has become a viable alternative. Corporal punishment is looked upon as shaming the individual and not the family name. Methods of corporal punishment (physical and social) may include caning, flogging, reduction of rank, and various peasant duties.